



February 8, 2013

**Washington State Mental Health Counselors; Marriage and Family Therapists; and
Social Workers Advisory Committee
Conference Call Meeting Minutes**

PHYSICAL LOCATION:

Washington State Department of Health
111 Israel Road SE
Town Center Two, Room 158
Tumwater, WA 98501
Telephone: 360-236-4912

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT VIA
PHONE:**

Fredda Jaffe, LMFT
Jennie Lindberg, LMFT
Julie Rowland, Public Member
Jenny Cooke Malstrom, Public Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Carlos Carreon, LICSW, ACSW, BCD
Carol Stanley, LMHC, Ph.D.

STAFF PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Betty Moe, Program Manager
Bob Nicoloff, Executive Director
Sandie Pearson, Board Support

AAG PRESENT:

Debra Defreyn, Assistant Attorney General

OTHERS PRESENT VIA PHONE

Laura Groshong, Washington State Society of
Clinical Social Workers
Kirk Roberts, Washington Association of Marriage
and Family Therapy
Hoyt Suppes, National Association of Social
Workers- Washington Chapter
Molly Forrester – Harborview
Laurie Morgan, Edmonds Community College
Student
Fred McNear, Seattle University
Karen Langer
Keeley Hope
Kristin Huston
Kiera Ripley

On February 8, 2013 the Washington State Mental Health Counselors; Marriage and Family Therapists; and Social Workers Advisory Committee (committee) met via teleconference. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was e-mailed to members of the Licensed Counselors Listserv.

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

9:04 a.m.

1.1 Introductions – Betty Moe, Program Manager conducted roll call to identify committee members and staff participating in the call. Guest callers introduced themselves.

Fredda Jaffe, LMFT volunteered to preside as chair for the remainder of the meeting as Carlos Carreon, Vice Chair was unable to attend.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda – The committee approved the agenda as written.

1.3 Approval of the November 2, 2012 Meeting Minutes – The committee reviewed and approved the meeting minutes as presented.

2. MANAGER REPORTS – Robert Nicoloff, Executive Director & Betty Moe, Program Manager

2.1 Legislative Update – Members were provided information regarding the following bills that currently are moving through the legislative process:

- HB 1376-An act relating to clarifying the requirement that certain health professionals complete training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management; amending RCW 43.70 – This bill would amend the continuing education requirements related to suicide assessment, treatment, and management for various professions including: certified counselors; certified advisors; chemical dependency professionals; advanced social workers; and independent clinical social workers. Ms. Moe reported to members that the committee may need to re-visit the draft rules currently in process depending on whether this bill is passed.
- HB 1213-An act relating to social worker licensing; amending RCW 18.225.010, 18.225.090, 18.225.145, and 43.70.442; and adding new sections to chapter 18.225 RCW – This bill would impact social workers and those credentialed as associates. The bill broadens who may provide supervision for a licensed advanced social worker. It also requires the department to report to the legislature annually for six years the number of associate licenses that have been renewed four, five or six times.
- SB 5163-An act relating to child protective services workers; and adding a new section to chapter 26.44 RCW – This bill adds a new section to the DSHS statute RCW 26.44. The new section would require any child protective services worker be licensed in good standing in a social worker classification under RCW 18.225 who is directly engaged in the following:
 1. Investigation of reports of alleged child abuse or neglect;
 2. Assessment of risk of abuse or neglect to children; or
 3. Provision of or referral to services, including law enforcement, to remedy conditions that endanger the health, safety, and welfare of children.

2.2 Executive Director Update – Mr. Nicoloff shared that he had been away from the department for awhile, and was happy to return and looks forward to continuing his work with the committee.

2.3 Budget Report – Mr. Nicoloff provided committee members an updated interim operating budget report (below). The report indicates that the budget for the new associate credential continue to be overspent. This is not unusual for new professions,

considering the start up costs. However, Mr. Nicoloff reminded members that each profession is required to be self-supporting. The department is considering various ways to work out the new associate credentials budget issues. Solutions being considered include a fee increase or combining the associate credential and full licensure credential. Program staff will continue to monitor the budgets and provide updated information at the next meeting.

Program	Current Balance
LMFT	160,254
LMHC	563,342
LASW & LICSW	556,522
LMFTA	-54,831
LMHCA	-185,440
LSWAIC & LSWAA	-78,484

2.4 Current Licensing Statistics – Ms. Moe presented licensing statistics as of January 30, 2013. Statistics presented are as follows:

Program	Current Number of Credential Holders
LMFT	1278
LMHC	5376
LASW	100
LICSW	3490
LMFTA	364
LMHCA	1444
LSWAIC	963
LSWAA	90
Certified Counselors	729
Certified Advisers	6
Agency Affiliated Counselors	6051

2.5 Committee member appointment/recruitment update

Ms. Moe reported to the committee that she is currently recruiting for one public member, one Licensed Advanced Social Worker, and one Licensed Mental Health Counselor. A previous recruitment announcement went out; however an insufficient number of applications were received. Ms. Moe will be sending out another recruitment announcement soon.

2.6 Program Manager Update – Ms. Moe shared that she had received information from NBCC regarding the national conference that is being held on August 8-9, 2013. Ms. Moe asked whether any committee members present would like represent the committee and attend the conference. Ms. Jaffe is interested in attending. Ms. Moe will email her additional conference information.

2.7 Update on rule process creating the retired active status – The rules relating to the issuance of a retired active credential for licensed marriage and family therapist, licensed mental health therapists, licensed independent clinical social worker, and licensed advanced social worker are currently progressing through the expedited rules process. Ms. Moe anticipates a rules hearing to be held at the end of March 2013.

2.8 Update on exam approval for LMFTA's and LMFT's – Ms. Moe reported that applicants began using the new process in early January 2013. Not all applicants were approved in time for the first exam cycle. Audience member, Kirk Roberts, said applicants seemed to be happy with the new exam process and have only said good things about the change. Audience member, Hoyt Suppes concurred. Mr. Roberts thanked the department for working on the new exam process.

2.9 Update on Heal-WA fee Reduction – The Heal-WA fee will be reduced to \$16 for mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers. The fee will be in addition to the practitioner's renewal fee.

3. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORT – Debra Defreyn, AAG

Ms. Defreyn introduced herself to the committee members. She shared that prior to her current position with the Attorney General's Office, she had worked as a staff attorney and then as a Health Law Judge for the Department of Health.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Audience members had no comments to share with the committee at this time.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items listed under the consent agenda (informational items) are considered routine matters and were approved by a single motion of the committee without separate discussion.

- **Current issue of "The Sentinel News for Department Employees**

6. ELECTION OF 2013 COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

Prior to electing the 2013 committee leadership, Ms. Moe conducted roll call to ensure that a quorum of committee members required for decision making was present. After the committee roll call it was determined that the number of committee members required for a quorum was no longer present. The election of the committee's 2013 leadership was deferred until the next meeting.

7. CACREP APPROVED PROGRAMS

Ms. Moe presented information regarding CACREP accreditation. Committee members were also provided a copy of a letter from CACREP regarding National Education Standards for the Practice of Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Further discussion of CACREP Approved Programs was deferred until the next meeting.

8. 25 HOURS IN SUPERVISION OF CLINICAL PRACTICE

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The committee discussed adding the following items to future meeting agendas:

- Election of new chair.
- Discuss CACREP approved programs as a requirement for licensure as a mental health counselor
- Clarification of 25 hours of supervision for supervisors.
- Legislation update
- Rules update

10. OTHER ITEMS

Committee members had no additional items to discuss at this time.

11. ITEMS TO MONITOR

The committee will continue to monitor the following items:

- Parenting Evaluation Standards
- CACREP standards and schools in Washington with CACREP accreditation
- CACREP accreditation/portability etc.
- Discussion about other states going to a 60 semester/90 quarter credit requirement for licensure.

12. ADJOURNMENT

9:47 a.m.

Future Meeting Dates:

April 19, 2013

August 16, 2013

November 1, 2013

Submitted by:

Betty J. Moe, Program Manager
Washington State Mental Health Counselors; Marriage and Family Therapists;
and Social Worker Advisory Committee

Approved by:

Carlos Carreon, LICSW, ACSW, BCD, Chair
Washington State Mental Health Counselors; Marriage and Family Therapists;
and Social Worker Advisory Committee